



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/664,095	09/16/2003	Emir Gurer	006601P042D2	3729
7590	04/18/2006		EXAMINER	
Michael A. Bernadicou			LE, HOA VAN	
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP				
Seventh Floor			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
12400 Wilshire Boulevard			1752	
Los Angeles, CA 90025				
				DATE MAILED: 04/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/664,095	GURER ET AL.	
	Examiner Hoa V. Le	Art Unit 1752	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 March 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-12 and 44-51 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 1-12 and 44-51 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

This is in response to Paper filed on 27 March 2006.

A. In view of the complexities of the added embodiments in amendment filed on 27 March 2006, a telephone call was made to the Office of Mr. Michael A. Bernadicou. However, Mr. Bernadicou has Mr. Neal Berezny to call back to request a written Office action.

B. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-7 and 44-45, drawn to the specific processing steps, classified in class 430, subclass 311.
- II. Claims 8-12 and 46-48, drawn to another patentably distinct processing steps from that of the invention in “I” above. Applicants should show or provide a convincing evidence the contrary, classified in class 430, subclass 320.
- III. Claims 8-12 and 46-48, drawn to another patentably distinct processing steps from those of the inventions “I” and “II” above.

Applicants should show or provide a convincing evidence the contrary, classified in class 430, subclass 335.

The above inventions are all related to specific processing steps but are patentably distinct processing step orders. There is no evidence on the record that the processing step orders are not patentably different or distinct. Applicant should show or provide a convincing evidence to the contrary. Otherwise, the restriction on the record would not be removed since additional searches for additional processing step order as patentably divided by applicant are timely and burdensome. Should applicants disagree, urge, show or provide a convincing evidence that there is no patentably difference or distinct in all Group of the claimed inventions, they stand or fall together. No additional consideration or search will be made. It is now notified and set forth for the record.

Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and the inventions require a different field of search for the patentably

distinct processing step orders as divided by applicants (see MPEP § 808.02), restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103(a) of the other invention.

C. Applicants cite the supports for the inventions of Group I and II are found to be convincing. However, there is no support for the processing step orders in the invention of Group III is found. The supports should be timely and convincingly shown or provided. For an issue of a new matter, please see at least *Tronzo v. Biomet Inc.*, 4 USPQ2d 1403.

D. Other issues have not been considered until a proper election is made and resolved.

E. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoa V. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-1332.

The examiner can normally be reached from 6:30 AM to 4:30 PM on Monday though Thursday and about the same time of most Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cynthia Kelly can be reached on 571-272-1526.

Applicants may file a paper by (1) fax with a central facsimile receiving number 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be

Art Unit: 1752

obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hoa V. Le
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1752

HVL
17 April 2006

HOA VAN LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Hoa Van Le